

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SHOE CLEANING AND POLISHING GUIDE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 15—210)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a shoe cleaning and polishing guide.

The invention proposes an article as mentioned which is characterized by a plate having a front end and a rear end, and a block of felt slidably mounted on the plate and having a front flanged end and a rear curved end, whereby the block of felt may be placed with its ends in specific relation to the ends of said plate for assisting in cleaning and polishing shoes as hereinafter more fully described.

More specifically, the invention proposes that the block of felt, or similar material be divided into end sections of different colors, or material to indicate the cleaning end and the polishing end, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

Still further the invention contemplates a novel arrangement for slidably mounting the block of felt and for releasably and removably mounting the felt so that it may be removed and changed when desired.

Still further the invention proposes an arrangement for releasably holding said block of felt in various forward or rearward positions on the plate.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a shoe cleaning and polishing guide constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a bottom elevational view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an elevational view of the article, illustrated schematically in its position when it is used in cleaning the welt of a shoe.

Fig. 5 is an elevational view of the article in another position when it is used for polishing the lower portion of the shoe upper of a shoe.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating a modified construction.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a similar view to Fig. 1, but illustrating another form of the invention.

Fig. 9 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8.

The shoe cleaning and polishing guide, in accordance with this invention, includes a plate 10

having a front end 10<sup>a</sup> and a rear end 10<sup>b</sup>. A block of felt 11 is slidably mounted on the plate 10 and has a front flanged end 11<sup>a</sup> and a rear curved end 11<sup>b</sup>. The construction is such that the block of felt 11 may be placed with its ends in specific relation to the ends of the plate 10.

More specifically, the felt block 11 is slidably guided on the plate 10 by several prongs 12 stamped from the material of the plate and extended upwards along the sides of the block 11. The block 11 also is provided with a headed tubular member 14 engaged through the material thereof. This tubular member has a bottom head 14<sup>a</sup>. The bottom portion of the tubular member 14 passes through an elongated slot 15 in the plate 10. The edge portions of the head 14<sup>a</sup> slidably hold the tubular member 14 in position through the slot 15. A washer 16 is extended over the top end of the tubular member 14. A holding screw 17 threadedly engages the top end of the tubular member 14 and holds the washer 16 in position.

A pair of side flanges 18 is formed integral with the sides of the plate 10 and extend a short distance beneath the bottom face of the plate 10 towards each other and serve to cover over portions of the head 14<sup>a</sup> of the headed tubular member 14. At one of their ends the side flanges 18 are formed with semi-circular cutout portions 18<sup>a</sup> through which the headed stud 14 may be removed when in a certain position. It is necessary that the head 14<sup>a</sup> be aligned with the cutouts 18<sup>a</sup> to permit the removal thereof.

The felt block 11 has one half of its compass 11<sup>c</sup> dyed or colored black or some other dark color, and the other half 11<sup>d</sup> of a lighter shade or color.

The article is used in the following manner:

The front flanged end 11<sup>a</sup> of the felt block 11 is engaged on the edge and top portions of the welt and sole A of a shoe having a shoe upper B. The plate 10 is shifted so as to extend over and reinforce the flanged end portion 11<sup>a</sup>. In this position the guide may be moved along the edge portions of the welt and sole 11 for cleaning the same. Preferably, the front end portion of the felt 11 should be saturated with water or other cleaning fluid prior to the cleaning operation.

In Fig. 5 another use of the article is shown. In this figure the felt block 11 is at the top and the plate 10 is at the bottom. The plate 10 is moved to a position so as to have its rear end engage in the junction between the shoe upper B and the welt and sole A. Then the rear end 11<sup>b</sup> of the felt block 11 is engaged against the adjacent base portions of the shoe upper B. The